

Date: 15th January 2026
Our ref: FOI/26/016135/F

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/26/016135/F

I write in connection with your request for information dated 09/01/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to request information under the FOI Act. Please provide information for the past 2 years:

- 1. An Excel spreadsheet detailing all any deployments of live facial recognition technology to protests in the past 3 years. Please include the date, approximate location, what technology was used (cameras, algorithms) number of matches, number of arrests following identification, what suspected crime any arrests were for, and details of any charges/referrals to CPS following successful identification and arrest at protests.***
- 2. An Excel spreadsheet detailing all instances where footage of protests captured by police officers has been analysed by retrospective facial recognition technology. Please include the date and approximate location the footage was taken, the brand and model of camera or device the footage was taken on, any matches, whether those matches were against a local database or the police national database, what suspected crime any arrests resulting from matches were for, and any charges/referrals to CPS***
- 3. An Excel spreadsheet detailing any instances of arrests following identification with operator-initiated facial recognition at protests. Please include the date, approximate location, what software or algorithm was used, the suspected crimes for which people were arrested, and if those crimes were charged/ referred to the CPS.***

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate the requested information. I can confirm the information requested is not held by GMP.

Question 1 – Zero as we haven't deployed to any protests using Facial Recognition technology.

Question 2 – No information held.

Question 3 – GMP do not use Officer-initiated facial recognition.